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NEWS *release*

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Northern Impacts Feature Prominently On Premiers' Agenda

WHITEHORSE - Canada's premiers will be given a first-hand look at how climate change is affecting the North during the Council of the Federation (CoF) Forum on Adaptation to Climate Change in Vancouver next week.

Premier Dennis Fentie is introducing the forum agenda item which features the northern regions and will follow with a presentation on climate change adaptation in Yukon focused on infrastructure.

"This is an invaluable opportunity to demonstrate how the effects of climate change are altering peoples' lives in the North," Fentie said. "The Yukon government is committed to continuing its work with local, national and international governments on climate change adaptation given its significant impacts on Yukon's environment, our people and our way of life."

The forum will feature sessions on climate change impacts and adaptation across Canada and key adaptation initiatives by provinces, territories and the federal government.

"I look forward to meeting with my provincial and territorial colleagues to address a number of issues critical to Yukon, and anticipate practical and productive discussions," Fentie added.

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The forum will take place Jan. 29 following the winter CoF meeting Jan. 28. Agenda items for the winter meeting include internal trade, climate change and the upcoming federal budget.

Northern premiers will also meet Jan. 27 to discuss common priorities prior to the meetings slated for Jan. 28 and 29.

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Contact:

Roxanne Vallevand
Cabinet Communications Advisor
(867) 633-7949
roxanne.vallevand@gov.yk.ca

Samantha Paterson
Communications, ECO
(867) 667-5341
samantha.paterson@gov.yk.ca